

State Conservation Commission Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2024
Matthews Training Center – Joe Foss Building
523 East Capitol Ave, Pierre

Call to Order: Chairman Doug Hansen called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM CST.

Roll Call of Members Present: Tom Glover, Dusty Rodiek, Dean Odden, Bruce Haines, Duane Schneider, Bill Coburn, and Doug Hansen.

Members Attending the Meeting Later: Gene Williams and Charlie Moe.

Others Present: Bill Smith (DANR), Alex Roeber (DANR), Jordan Turgeon (DANR), Paul Lorenzen (DANR), Betty Dunaway (DANR), Kim Paxton (DANR), Mary Beth Fravel (Stanley Conservation District), Angela Ehlers (SDACD), Zach Zimprich (Brule-Buffalo Conservation District), Karl Jensen (Lawrence Conservation District), John Blanton (SDSU-Agricultural Experiment Station), Tanya Flegal (Kingsbury Conservation District), Colette Kessler (NRCS) Darrel Duval (NRCS).

Others present via Teleconference: Patricia Weyrich (DANR), Justin Krajewski (RESPEC), Dawn Schulte (Charles Mix Conservation District), Shauna Kopren (Perkins Conservation District), Mike Baldwin (Custer Conservation District), Angie Jones (Dewey Conservation District), Meshele Townsend (Edmunds Conservation District), Micheal Bordelon (DANR), Deanna Kunkel (Codington Conservation District).

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None.

Approval of the September 16, 2024 Minutes: A motion was made by Dean Odden, and seconded to approve the September 16, 2024 minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-absent, Doug Hansen-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-absent, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, and Charlie Moe-aye.
Motion carried.

Request for new business to be placed on the agenda: None.

Upcoming travel: Bill Smith provided the list of upcoming meetings. Angela Ehlers discussed the Conservation Leadership retreat to be held on November 18 – 19 in Pierre.

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve upcoming travel for Bruce Haines to attend the South Dakota Nutrient Research and Education Council (NREC) meeting on December 9. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-absent, Doug Hansen-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-absent, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-abstained, Duane Schneider-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve upcoming travel for Dean Odden to attend the 319 Nonpoint Task Force meeting on December 12. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-absent, Doug Hansen-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-absent, Dean-abstain, Bruce Haines-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence: None.

Revolving Loan Report: Jordan Turgeon provided the revolving loan status report.

Grant Program/Updates: Alex Roeber provided the commission with an update on the grants program.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to revert \$104,341.71 from expired grants and made available for new grant applications. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-absent, Doug Hansen-aye, Tom Glover, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-absent, Dean-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Fall Grant Round Review: There were a total of twenty-four grant applications received for consideration this November. The below reflects the alphabetical order of the grants as submitted by conservation districts rather than in chronological order in which they were acted upon.

Conservation Commission Grant Applications:

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District's Livestock Water Quality Grant application in the amount of \$28,290. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District's Shelterbelt Grant application in the amount of \$8,256. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Bennett/Badlands conservation districts' Tree Planting 2025 Grant application in the amount of \$10,444. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Brule Buffalo Conservation District's Renovation and Tree Planting Grant application in the amount of \$25,200. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Butte Conservation District's Multi-County Ditch to Pipe Conversion Grant application in the amount of \$30,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Butte Conservation District's SD Envirothon Grant application in the amount of \$15,500. Please note, the commission approved a grant amount significantly reduced from the amount requested. The commission voiced concern that it appears the grant request seeks to use commission grant funds as the primary funding source for the Envirothon program. The commission's decision to award a reduced amount reflects their consensus opinion that grant funds may be appropriate to use in a supportive role for education programs such as Envirothon,

as they have provided since 2013. However, they should not be looked to as the primary funding source. The commission recommends that the district approach other partners to help with funding going forward. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Charles Mix Conservation District's Brush Management Grant application in the amount of \$15,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-abstained, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Charles Mix Conservation District's Shelterbelts Grant application in the amount of \$10,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve the Clark Conservation District's Tree Shelterbelt Grant application in the amount of \$11,825.50. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Codington Conservation District's 2025 Promotion Grant application in the amount of \$2,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-abstained, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve the Corson Conservation District's Tree Planting Grant application in the amount of \$1,265.75. A substitute motion was made by Bruce Haines was made and seconded to raise the total project cost from \$2,439.50 to \$2,530 so the cost-share requirements are met. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Custer Conservation District's Thinning for a Resilient Forest Grant application in the amount of \$61,200. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District's Micro Irrigation Grant application in the amount of \$2,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-abstain, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District's Tree Planting Grant application in the amount of \$10,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-abstain, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Dewey Conservation District's Dewey County Tree Grant application in the amount of \$11,201.89. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Edmunds Conservation District's Conservation Education Grant application in the amount of \$1,500. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Fall River Conservation District's Forest Resiliency Project Grant application in the amount of \$15,000. The reduction was to adjust the grant amount to match the local matching funds. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Kingsbury Conservation District's Conservation for Everyone Grant application in the amount of \$50,000. Bruce Haines offered up a substitute

motion to approve the grant application amount in the amount of \$49,000 and with the understanding that compost bins and rain barrels are excluded from cost-share. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-nay, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines - aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Lake Conservation District's Improving Soil Health by Conservation Grant application in the amount of \$15,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-nay, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Lawrence Conservation District's Thinning for a Forest Health Project Grant application in the amount of \$145,530.58 of commission grant funds and \$21,469.42 of forest resiliency funds. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-abstained, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District's Conservation Education Grant application in the amount of \$2,550. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District's Pollinator Plantings Grant application in the amount of \$1,650. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene William and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District's SDACDE Promoting Conservation in 2025 Grant in the amount of \$8,000. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District's NWA Tree Planting Grant in the amount of

\$19,389.55. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider-aye. **Motion carried.**

Cost Share Docket for 2025: Alex Roeber informed the commission a memo was received by South Dakota Conservation Districts Employees' Association requested proposed changes to the current cost-share docket. **A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve costs as presented. A substitute motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the changes proposed with the exception request to raise the cost-share rate for shelterbelt renovations for below ground removals to 40%. The following changes to the 2025 commission docket as follows:**

Tree Planting will be \$0.52/lf, Shrub Planting will be \$0.54/lf, Fabric will be \$0.85/lf, Fabric Squares will be \$4.50 each, a new practice of 5' Tree Protectors with stake will be \$11.25, 4' Tree Protector with stake will be \$8.00, and Cover Crop will be \$30.00/acre. Roll call vote: Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden - aye, Doug Hansen-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye, Duane Schneider - aye. **Motion carried.**

Division Report: Paul Lorenzen updated the Commission on division activities.

Advisory Board Members Reports: Angela Ehlers provided SDACD report and Darrel Duval provided NRCS report.

Open Forum and Public Comment: None.

Next Meeting location and place: The next commission meeting and time will be determined.

Ending Remarks: None.

Chairman Hansen declared the meeting adjourned at 12:56 PM CST.